Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A - EXEMPT FROM DECLASSIFICATION TAGS: EAGR, BR SUBJ: COFFEE STOCKS AND PRODUCTION IN PARANA

1. FOLLOWING IS A REPORT FROM CONGEN SAO PAULO.

2. ON MARCH 14, DR. GUILLERHME BRAGA, IBC AGENT FOR THE LONDRINA MARINGA AREA WHO HAS BEEN A FREQUENT CONGEN SOURCE IN THE PAST, ASSURED CONGEN OFFICERS THAT IBC STOCKS IN THE STATE WERE 3.9 TO 4.0 MILLION BAGS AMD THAT THERE WERE PERHAPS 700,000 BAGS IN SAO PAULO STATE. HE SAID THE IBC WAS SHIPPING COFFEE TO DOMESTIC ROASTERS AND SOLUBLE COFFEE PRODUCERS AT THE RATE OF 800,000 BAGS A MONTH FROM ITS PARANA STOCKS. THUS HE EXPECTED TO HAVE JUST 700,000 BAGS BY JUNE 30. CACIQUE SOLUBLE COFFEE EXECUTIVES CONFIRMED SEPARATELY THAT THEY ARE BEING FULLY SUPPLIED FROM IBC WAREHOUSES.

3. WITH REGARD TO PRIVATE STOCKS IN PARANA, THE CENTRO DO COMERCIO DO CAFE DO NORTE DO PARANA WHICH CONGEN AND EMBASSY HAVE USED AS A RELIABLE SOURCE OF STOCK FIGURES, GAVE THE CONGEN THE FOLLOWING TABLE OF STOCKS AS OF FEBRUARY 28:

GENERAL WAREHOUSES 1,340,133 BAGS
COOPERATIVES 599,748 BAGS
PROCESSORS 225,822 BAGS
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ON FARM STOCKS 50,000 BAGS

4. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENTS OF MANDAGUARI AND MARINGA COFFEE COOPERATIVES, THEY EACH SAID THEY HAD ABOUT 70,000 BAGS ON HAND AND THAT ALL COOPERATIVES HAD ABOUT 600,000 BAGS. ORIPES GOMES, THE PRESIDENT OF MANDAGUARI, TICKED OFF THE INDIVIDUALS AND/OR FIRMS WHICH STILL HAD COFFEE IN THE STATE,

AND SAID THAT THE MATTER HAD BECOME SO ACUTE THAT EVERYONE IN THE BUSINESS NOW KNEW EXACTLY HOW MUCH COFFEE THE OTHER HAD.

5. AS TO 1977/78 PARANA COFFEE PRODUCTION, DR. GUILLERHME GAVE THE OFFICIAL IBC COFFEE ESTIMATE OF 2.1 MILLION BAGS: 1.6 MILLION FROM THE MARINGA AREA AND 500,000 FROM THE LONDRINA AREA BUT PRIVATELY SAID THIS WAS TOO OPTIMISTIC. ORIPES COMES IS AT 830,000 BAGS FOR THE STATE ON THE BASIS OF 500 MILLION TREES PRODUCING 2.5 MILLION UNHUSKED, REDUCED TO GREEN BY A FACTOR OF 3 TO 1. THE MARINGA COOPERATIVE ESTIMATES ABOUT A MILLION BAGS. ALL ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE CONTINUED DROUGHT'S AFFECT ON NEXT YEAR'S COFFEE.

5. FAS OFFICER HAS SEEN. CRIMMINS

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